

conspirators—My hope is, if they do effect a landing, on the Island, they may meet the fate which they will so justly merit. The alien law was one great means of destroying the old Federal party—the only real, genuine, honest *party* this country has ever had, or, I fear, will ever have. Would that we had such a law now. I would gladly entrust its execution to the present administration. It is lamentable that the government has not power to send out [of] the country these needy, unprincipled foreigners, who are so constantly engaged in disturbing the Peace.

The late frosts have not injured the fruit in the vicinity, nor much affected the most delicate of our garden plants. We have the prospect now of a most abundant fruit year.

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I see Mr. Venable announced as a candidate for reelection to Congress. I hear of no opposition to him. Rencher & Cotton have withdrawn. Your letter killed the former—common decency the latter. Any decent Democrat could, I think, easily beat Mr. V. No Whig can but one, and he is Secretary of the Navy. The name of Mr. Graves⁶⁶ is mentioned with what authority I know not. I have no doubt he could be easily elected.

From Ambrose W. Thompson.

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Philadelphia,

April 26th, 1851.

The new Steamer Albatross will leave here on her third trip to Charleston on Friday next, the second of May. I contemplate going out in her, and it has occurred to me that a short Sea Voyage at this pleasant season of the year might prove agreeable and perhaps beneficial to you.

It will give the Company over which I preside, and myself individually, great pleasure to have you as our guest on this excursion to Charleston and back, will you therefore accept an invitation from us? I can certainly promise you a pleasant party on board, and I think a pleasant voyage also.

The Ship is admirably arranged as a Sea Steamer and one of the strongest ever built. Her engines are compact and work

Spanish rule, and raised men and money to assist the cause. Three expeditions all failed. The third resulted in the capture of part of the force and the execution of a considerable number including Lopez. John A. Quitman, who was involved, resigned as governor of Mississippi to stand trial in the United States.

⁶⁶ Calvin Graves.